

DEC 19 2006

PTO/SB/30 (04-35)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/577,209
Filing Date	May 23, 2000
First Named Inventor	Arnoldo Valenzuela
Art Unit	2872
Examiner Name	Shafer, Ricky D.
Attorney Docket Number	B0843-991160 (SPLG 4)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

- Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

  - ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
    - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☒ Enclosed
    - ☐ Amendment/Reply
    - ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
    - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ☒ Other Fax Cover Sheet, Petition for Extension
- Miscellaneous** of time and Credit Card form

  - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(f) required)
  - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

  - ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) **790.00**
  - ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) **02 FC:1801**
  - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**12/20/2006 TL0111 00000032 09577209**  
**790.00 OP**

  - ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
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## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature		Date	December 19, 2006
Name (Print/Type)	Evan R. Sotiriou	Registration No.	46,247

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Signature		Date	December 19, 2006
Name (Print/Type)	Evan R. Sotiriou	Date	December 19, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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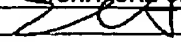
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- b. ☒ Enclosed
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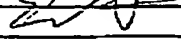
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